GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2598
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2005
SAARC DOCUMENTATION CENTRE
Sujatha Smt. C.S.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Traditional Digital Knowledge Library (TDKL) is part of the activity of SAARC Documentation Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for starting the said activity; (

(c) whether this activity is likely to affect the patent right of traditional knowledge of member countries and result in patent privacy;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of member countries thereto;

(e) whether a Committee is likely to be constituted to look into the matter;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the total funds allotted and utilised by the Centre during the last three years, Year-wise;

(h) the funds utilised for various expenses during the same period, item-wise; and

(i) the criteria for appointing and relieving the officials alongwith the details of officials appointed and relieved during the above period, Year-wise, Category-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e),(f),(g),(h) &
(i) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement with reference to Parts (a to i) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred question no. 2598 to be answered on 10-08-2005 regarding `SAARC Documentation Centre`

(a) Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) is still not a part of the activity/objective of SAARC Documentation Centre. However, on 27-28th December, 2004, SAARC Documentation Centre (SDC) had conducted a Workshop on Establishment of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library for SAARC Member Countries. The recommendations of this workshop were communicated to the SAARC Member Countries and their views on initiation of such activity are still awaited.

(b) Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) is for preventing misappropriation of the Traditional Knowledge of Countries at International Patent Offices wherever, such knowledge exists in local language and in codified form. The proposed project is for documentation of Traditional Knowledge of the respective SAARC countries.

(c)&(d) No, Sir.

(e)&(f) No, Sir.

(g) &(h) The details of total funds allotted and utilised by the SAARC Documentation Centre during the last three years, year-wise are as follows:

(in US $)

Year	Funds Allotted	Funds Utilized	Institutional	Programme	Capital	Total

2002 1,55,400/- 48,900/- 13,600/- 35,300/- Nil 48,900/-
2003 1,75,000/- 1,03,900/- 14,000/- 89,900/- Nil 1,03,900/-
2004 2,34,500/- 1,19,100/- 12,700/- 96,600/- 9800/- 1,19,100/-

(i) Officials are appointed and relieved on the basis of recommendation of Director, SDC by the Governing Board of SDC. Normally officials are appointed by Governing Board, SDC for a period of 2 years terms, which the Governing Board can extend for additional one term in continuation. The details of Officials appointed and relieved during the last three years are as follows:

S.No. Name Designation Period of Appointment

1. Mrs. Renu Arora SDC Coordinator 2001-2005

2. Mrs. Aruna Karanjai Natonal Focal Point - SDC Coordinator 2001-2005

3. Mr. S K Arora SDC Coordinator 2005-2007

4. Dr. (Ms) Archana Sharma Natonal Focal Point -SDC Coordinator 2005-2007